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The First Principle
1 Corinthians 11:2-12

Do you know any “Know-it-alls”?

I Cor. 11:2-12 *Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you. 3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.*

4 Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head. 5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. 6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head. 7 For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. 8 For man does not originate from woman, but woman from man; 9 for indeed man was not created for the woman's sake, but woman for the man's sake.

10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. 11 However, in the Lord, neither is woman independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. 12 For as the woman originates from the man, so also the man has his birth through the woman; and all things originate from God. (NAU)

How to study the Bible:

- I. Humbly seek the Spirit's help.
- II. Seek to understand the text in the context

A. The _____ Context

1. Paul is writing in 55AD from Ephesus to a church he planted in 51-52 AD. A church where many still look to Him as a Spiritual authority, but others question his authority (I Cor. 9:1-14).
2. Paul is writing in response to a letter he received from Corinth (I Cor. 1:11 & 7:1)
3. This text comes near the end of this letter and is the first text in a group of texts dealing with public worship.
4. Paul is answering specific questions that the Corinthian Church asked him in a letter that they sent him (I Cor. 7:1)

B. The _____ Context

C. The _____ Context

1. Patriarchal cultures
2. Corinth was a port city.
 - a. Extreme wealth and poverty; slaves and free people.
 - b. 12 pagan temples in the city
3. Paul planted the church in Corinth.

D. The _____ Context

1. New Testament Church's tradition was to have men and women serve in roles in praying and prophesying in public worship.
2. Worship leadership must be done in a way that clearly lifts up Christ.
3. The Bible can inform and transform our lives, but only as we understand it in context and under the power of the Holy Spirit.

Point:



Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. What is my attitude when I approach God's word?
2. How open am I to hear what God wants to say to me in God's word?
3. When I study the Bible, do I:
 - a. Ask where it fits into God's revelation?
 - b. What type of literature am I reading? What does this say about its meaning?
 - c. What can I learn about the original culture that this text was given to?
 - d. How can I apply the principle of this text to my daily life?

If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email pastortodd@thevineva.org or call 703.819.7795 to set up an appointment.